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PROGRESS REPORT FOR MONTH OF APRIL 1959

TRANSPORTABLE INFLATABLE ANTENNA

Purpose:

The scope of this project is to design, develop and test one antenna system for the 350-10,000 mc range and to fabricate and deliver five complete antenna systems with indoor mounts and two interchangeable outdoor mounts.

Personnel:

Electrical Engineer:
Mechanical Engineers:

Status:

One antenna system including an outside mount has been assembled and tested. The final electrical test which consisted of taking a full set of radiation patterns, measuring the gain of both the 6.5 and 2 foot antennas, and checking the input VSWR of both feeds in conjunction with their respective reflectors has been completed. Representative radiation patterns as well as curves of VSWR and gain as a function of frequency will be presented in the instruction book and final Engineering Report. Mechanical tests consisted of checking the contour of the reflectors, the erection procedure, and the stability of the system.

In a 35 mph wind, the antenna system appeared to be quite stable. The guy anchors in this case were driven into sodded black soil. It is felt that the system can easily withstand the required 70 mph wind if the anchors furnished are placed in the proper type soil.

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Because of poor high frequency performance, the Andrew air dielectric coax (Heliax) mentioned in previous reports will not be used; 3/8 inch Prodelin Inc. semi-flexible coax will be furnished with the system instead.

Future Plans: The first complete antenna system will be shipped within the next few days. The five remaining systems will be ready to ship by the time the log periodic feeds which are being fabricated at present are finished. The delivery date will depend in part on customer approval of the first antenna system. The instruction book is being written and should be completed by no later than June 1.

